Wisconsin Student Government

Wisconsin Technical College Advocacy Group

Established 1972

[www.wsgtech.com](http://www.wsgtech.com)

**Wisconsin Student Government Meeting Minutes**

**April 8, 2022**

**Western Technical College**

10:02 a.m. Dan Herder, President called the meeting to order and began role call.

10:08 a.m. Dan Herder welcomed Amy Thornton, Vice President of Student Services and Engagement at Western.

Amy took a moment to welcome and honor the Native Ho Chunk lands that this campus is located on. She thanked everyone for their leadership. She touched on how the Pandemic is coming to a hopeful close and stated that our voices and leadership are especially important right now.

10:14 a.m. Carl Vancaster, Parliamentarian addressed the membership regarding voting and the upcoming

elections. For the election of Officers, Governors need to vote the input from their college. Colleges will be given time to caucus.

10:15 a.m. The membership reviewed the meeting agenda. Dan entertained a motion to approve the agenda.

Mid-state motioned; Milwaukee seconded. The agenda was approved.

10:17 a.m. The membership reviewed the minutes from the February 22 WSG meeting. Dan entertained a motion

to approve minutes. Nicolet moved; Mid-State seconded. The minutes were approved.

10:19 a.m. President’s Report. Dan attended the WTCS Board meeting He shared with the Board that WSG was

grateful that online fees have been paused because of the pandemic. Dan recommended that online fees be paused permanently.

10:21 a.m. Josh shared the AFO report and the expense report for the Legislative Seminar.

10:22 a.m. A student from Northcentral Technical College shared the summary of the Legislative Seminar

Evaluation with the group. Everyone was happy with the food. Lobby games were commonly cited as the most valuable part of the seminar. Brian Miller was also a favorite of many people. Many people suggested having the WSG meeting on a different day going forward. It will give more time for lobby games and more time to interact and meet other students.

10:24 a.m. Vicky moved to discuss the location and contract for the next Legislative Seminar in 2023. Madison

Concourse gave us a contract for 2023. Vicky reviewed it with the membership. Cost of rooms go up $10 a night. Parking will remain reduced to $10/night. The deposit is $2500. This year they dropped the required amount for food to $2000. Dan entertained a motion to approve Madison Concourse contract for next year. Milwaukee moved; Black hawk seconded. The contract for the Madison Concourse was approved.

10:27 a.m. Brandon Trujillo, WTCS Policy Advisor provided legislative updates. He shared that he believes online

fees may be removed permanently. The legislature is no longer in session but there's discussion going on regarding some legislation. Brandon showed the membership the links that can be used to look up bills. Go to [legis.wi.gov](http://legis.wi.gov/) , then go to the 21-22 session and look up different bills including assembly and senate resolutions. Brandon highlighted several bills and the impact these bills had on the WTCS system or students.

11:06 a.m. Governor reports were provided from each of the colleges present.

11:37 a.m. The dates for the 2022-2023 meetings were shared with the membership. Vicky shared that the

colleges receive $550 for lunch although often lunch costs more and the host college covers that. Each college invites a Representative to come in and talk during the meeting. Vicky read the proposed schedule. Dan entertained a motion for approval. Mid-State motioned for approval; Milwaukee seconded. Motion carried.

11:41 a.m. Dan talked about the research director position description and approving it. Vicky will be vacating this

position at the end of November. Vicky talked on the strengths and skills needed by the future resource director. This person handles all the finances and oversees the operations of the organization. The qualifications can be anyone with a combination of experience. WSG hopes for a good pool of candidates. Interviews will be at the October meeting. Dan asked if there were any questions regarding the position. Mid-State asked if there is a grace period in between these meetings for the candidates to apply. Vicky answered and stated that she will stay on until the end of November to help transition the position over. Dan entertained a motion to approve the position description and to move forward. Mid-State motions to approve; Blackhawk seconds. Motion is approved.

11:45 a.m. Dan shared that an interim contract will need to be approved for Vicky until the Resource Director

position is approved. Vicky spoke about the proposed contract and payment plan in for both the interim and new Resource Director. Milwaukee asked what the procedure looks like if there is someone that does not carry out the responsibilities. Vicky said that this would be a decision that the Executive Team would make and it would be up to the advisors from the colleges that have officer positions to carry out responsibilities during the time there is would not be a Resource Director. Dan entertained motion to approve interim resource director contract. Milwaukee motions to approve; Nicolet seconds. Motion was approved.

11:47 a.m. Discussion of leadership presenter suggestions for the Legislative Seminar next year and the October

meeting occurred. There was support for Brian Miller. Other speakers in addition to Brian Miller

were discussed. Vicky indicated that motivational speakers have a fee range and shared the WSG budget has for speakers. Suggestions for potential speakers to go to Vicky and if there is a video clip that could be shared with the membership, it is encouraged.

11:55 a.m. The meeting was adjourned for lunch.

1:02 p.m. Meeting was called back to order and Dan welcomed Jill Billings, Legislative Representative

1:03 p.m. Representative Billings greeted the group and explained how redistricting within her district is occurring.

She explained the process and indicated that every 10 years following the census, district lines are redrawn based on the population. Districts and who lives in those districts are important to her and every politician. She has been a representative for approximately 12 years. She is fourth in leadership and is currently the vice caucus chair. Some of her focus has been on improving the opioid crisis and narcotic use. Overdoses have increased during the pandemic. Fentanyl is involved in 70% of overdose deaths. She assisted in increasing the penalty for dealing fentanyl. Representative Billings would like to see every college have fentanyl test strips the campus so students don't die. She then opened the floor up for questions. Questions covered liberal arts colleges and transfers within the WTCS, fentanyl drug testing and how we can make an impact with our legislative representatives. Representative Billings advised to reach out to your representatives on topics, especially the upcoming budget.

1:32 p.m. Dan thanked Representative Billings and asked if she would like to take a group photo. A photo was taken. She complimented Dan on the job he was doing.

1:35 p.m. Advocacy Positions -- Vicky began with the current WSG advocacy positions and explained that during

the upcoming year, positions would be developed to advocate on. Brandon elaborated and used as an example how the Representative talked about the associate of science and arts transferring over to 4-year schools. That might be a priority. Brandon suggested the topics of improved broadband in rural communities and open educational resources as our priorities. He urged the students to think about our issues and share them with other students and student government because many students may face these issues.

1:40 pm. Vicky facilitated an activity where students were encouraged to write potential topics for advocacy.

Students met and discussed current issues they believe were important and gave notes to Vicky who will share with the new Executive Team to develop suggested priorities for next year.

1:54 p.m. Dan shared the proposed budget or 2022-2023 to the membership. Vicky talked about the sources of

revenue for the organization as well as expenses. She then asked if there were any questions. Midstate motions to approve the budget for 2022-2023; Blackhawk seconds. Motion carries.

2:01 p.m. Vicky took the floor for the elections process and gave the Executive Team some kind gifts. Vicky

stressed that anyone who considers running for a position needs to have support from their advisor. It is a number one responsibility that you must be at all the meetings. She shared the duties and responsibilities of each of the positions. Vicky stressed that the members of the Executive Team must represent at least 3 different colleges. The process was explained to the membership. Nominations will be taken, both pre-submitted and from the floor. Candidates will have time to share their skills and reasons for running. The membership will have the opportunity to ask questions prior to voting.

2:12 p.m. Vicky opened nominations for the position of president. Nominees were: Dan Herder, Sam Lundeen-

Janiak, Aspyn Koslowski and Katrina Willis. Katrina Willis from Madison College was elected as President.

2:43 p.m. Vicky opened nominations for the position of Vice President. Nominees were: Lyndin Atkieloski, Dan

Herder, Samantha Lundeen-Janiak, Aspyn Koslowski and Patrick Casper. Patrick Casper from Milwaukee was elected as Vice President.

3:08 p.m. Vicky opened the nominations for the position of AFO (Administrative Financial Officer). Nominees

were: Aspyn Koslowski, John Krueger and Sam Lundeen-Janiak. John Krueger from Nicolet College was elected as AFO.

3:24 p.m. Vicky opened the nominations for the position of Parliamentarian. Nominees were: Carl Vancaster, Tara

Chapman, Aspyn Koslowski and Sam Lundeen-Janiak. Aspyn Koslowski from Moraine Park was elected as Parliamentarian.

3:43 p.m. Vicky opened the nominations for the position of Public Relations Representative. Nominees were:

Brittney Nelson and Dylan Marx. Dylan Marx from Southwest Wisconsin was elected as Public Relations Representative.

3:59 p.m. Vicky made closing remarks to transition the old Executive Team to the new one.

4:00 p.m. Patrick entertained a motion to adjourn. Midstate motions; Blackhawk seconds. Meeting is adjourned.